

# ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA

## THE GAZETTE.

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 1, 1859.

### A SIGN OF PROGRESS.

At a meeting of gentlemen utterly opposed to all kinds of labor, recently held at Easy Chair, Master Fastboy was called to the chair and Master Whipladdy appointed secretary.

Mr. Fastboy rose and explained the object of the meeting. He said it was "then time" to be thus able to give his views on the vulgar habit of work. Time was when white people worked, but that day had passed excepting the lower classes. [Applause.] He took it that young men of sixteen were as capable of conducting the affairs of the nation as old men. [Great applause.]—He said that labor was degrading to the white man; that the country was a wretched country; and none could work as well as negroes.—[Applause.]

He said our fathers have some negroes, but not enough. If the old fellows had managed right they would have had enough for their children—but let that pass. Negroes can be had so cheap as to justify young gentlemen in living as *gentlemen* should in the pursuit of pleasure and gain. [Immense applause.] Was not more in keeping with the spirit of the age for young gentlemen to devote their time to the invigorating exercise of playing billiards with a friend, than in the degrading drudgery of ploughing in the field? How much better to practice the "manly art of self-delusion" by shooting in a pistol gallery, than to tote a heavy rifle through the woods? He said the exertions of parents now-a-days, in the blaze of improvement and intelligence and progress were tyrannical and savage, and he hoped this enlightened meeting would give an impulse to liberal sentiments. [Immense applause.]

A committee was appointed to draft resolutions, consisting of Messrs. Champagne, Derringer, and Billiards, who retired to consider them, and during their retirement Master Bruiser offered the following, which was unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*, That as negroes were made to work for white people and white people can git along and not work, and Africans is so cheap that any old chap can git as many as will keep his boys from work, it is the deliberate sense of the young gentlemen in this meetin' that it is degrading for them to work and that it is the duty of the old fellows that we have to call our daddies to buy enough negroes to keep things goin' for our own use and benefit.

Bruiser said he didn't like to make a speech, being only thirteen years old, but as the rights of his class were assailed by the attacks of old fogey politicians and the press of the country, he felt bound by every manly consideration to give his views. He scolded the imputation that he was a mere boy.—[Applause.] He denounced those who insisted that 3,500,000 negroes was enough, with increase. [Applause.] He decried any man to point out in the Constitution any authority for parents to make slaves of their sons in the South, by putting them to the plow-handles. [Applause.] Has the South no rights? Has the chivalrous sons of the South no rights? Has the father, by law, a right to oppress and degrade his sons, whose aspirations are all for something high, something noble—something of an elevating character? These are grave questions, and he would not now attempt their discussion. [Applause.] He was willing to back his judgment, even at the hazard of his life. [Here one of his Derringers fell out, as is pocket, fired, and wounded a pointing dog in the foot.] The committee reported the following, which were adopted amid the most vociferous applause:

*Resolved*, That we live in the South, and that the South has rights, and that we, being part of the South, have our rights.

*Resolved*, That the South has more negroes, and that as the South has not need of negroes, the South will not need as much white labor.

*Resolved*, That we demand that our daddies have the means, it is their duty to buy negroes to work their land, and give their sons a chance to express their minds and see all the fun they can.

*Resolved*, That labor is degrading to gentle- men. And that we will refuse to countenance any man who is not at all times as ready to fight a duel as to go a fishing, and as willing to pour out his heart's blood in defense of his honor as is to pour out "Headsack" at a party, and that we denounce all men (our daddies not excepted,) who will attempt to lecture us on the ten commandments.

Mr. Derringer said he'd like to record his views on the labor question in a more permanent manner, but as the hour was late, and as he had to act as the friend of a party in a duel in a few minutes, he would have to forego the pleasure of speaking.

Mr. Billiards said he must offer one or two resolutions, and would make a speech, but he had an engagement to meet some young gentlemen at a wine supper in a few minutes.

*Resolved*, That the law be changed so as to give men their rights at fourteen instead of twenty-one years.

*Resolved*, That all laws against the African slave trade are contrary to the Constitution and ought to be repealed, as they were passed in the dark period in our country's history.

Which were unanimously adopted.

The meeting adjourned to meet again some time soon.—*Brandon (Miss.) Republican.*

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